



November 7, 2001

Thomas J. Sugrue
Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: CC. Docket 94-102
Ongoing inquiry on E911 technical issues

Dear Mr. Sugrue:

In the press release of October 5, 2001 announcing decisions on several wireless E9-1-1 waiver requests, the following paragraph appears:

* The FCC will conduct an ongoing inquiry on E911 technical issues, including evaluation of reports and submissions by technology vendors, network equipment and handset manufacturers and carriers concerning technology standards issues, development of hardware and software, and supply conditions.

In the course of their extensive participation in the waiver proceedings as “Public Safety Organizations,” NENA, APCO and NASNA repeatedly urged that the FCC staff attempt to cut through the circular assertions from wireless carriers that they could not comply with the wireless caller location rules until handsets or upgraded switches or other gear were available and the rejoinders from suppliers that they could not produce these items without firm orders by the carriers. Thus, we took the above reference to “supply conditions” to be a response to our concerns and we appreciate this.

Even as the Commission was preparing the waiver orders for release, expected delivery dates for location-capable handsets and necessary switch upgrades continued to slip.¹ This included VoiceStream, whose waiver predated the others by a year.² AT&T Wireless was to have concluded negotiations with a network solution vendor by the middle of October,³ but so far as we are aware no selection has been announced.

¹ Cingular, letter of September 28, 2001, from Brian Fontes; Sprint, Further Supplemental Report, September 20, 2001, 2.

² Third Semi-Annual Report, October 1, 2001, 2.

³ Letter of September 17, 2001, from Douglas Brandon, 2.



We respectfully suggest that the time for an active and focused inquiry is now. Our associations will be glad to help in any way we can.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Mark Adams".

W. Mark Adams
Executive Director
NENA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Ramsey".

John Ramsey
Executive Director
APCO

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Evelyn Bailey".

Evelyn Bailey
President, NASNA

cc: FCC Commissioners